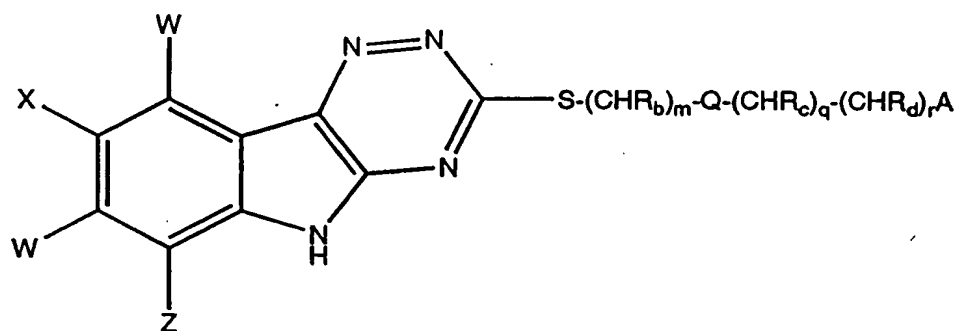


WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A compound for treating or preventing pestivirus
infection in a mammalian host having or
susceptible to said infection, said compound
having the formula:



wherein A represents a substituent selected from
the group consisting of:

- (a) NR_1R_2 wherein R_1 and R_2 are radicals
independently selected from the group
consisting of H, straight or branched chain
alkyl groups (C_1-C_6), substituted or
unsubstituted aryl groups, substituted or
unsubstituted aralkyl groups in which the
alkyl group is C_1-C_6 , alkoxy groups (C_1-C_6),
acyl groups (C_1-C_7), substituted or
unsubstituted carbalkoxy groups (C_1-C_8
alkoxy), or R_1 and R_2 , together with the

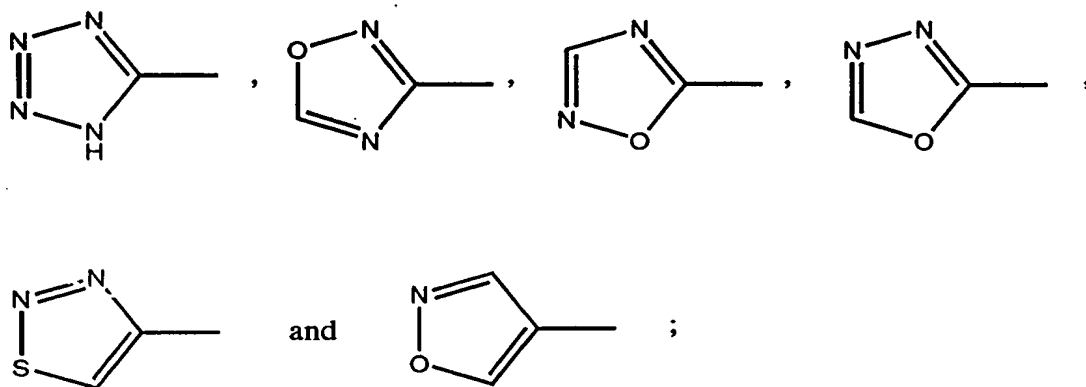
nitrogen atom to which they are attached, represent a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic ring selected from the group consisting of benzopyridazine, indole, benzotriazole, hexamethyleneimine, imidazole, isoxazole, morpholine, phthalimide, piperidine, piperazine and pyrrolidine;

(b) a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group selected from the group consisting of pyridine, benzimidazole, benzodioxane, benzofurazan, indole, benzothiophene, coumarin, furan, hexamethyleneimine, isoxazole, oxadiazole, piperazine, piperidine, pyridine, pyrimidine, pyrrolidine, quinoline, quinuclidene, tetrahydropyran and thiazole;

(c) a substituted or unsubstituted phenyl group; and

(d) OR_3 , wherein R_3 represents a radical selected from the group consisting of H, a straight or branched chain alkyl (C_1 - C_6) group, a substituted or unsubstituted phenyl group a substituted or unsubstituted phenylalkyl group wherein the alkyl group is C_1 - C_6 , or a substituted or unsubstituted tetrahydropyran; Q represents a linking moiety selected from the group consisting of $-(A')_n-(CO)]_p-$, $-S-$, $-(SO)-$, $-(SO_2)-$ or a valence bond, A' being $-NR_a-$ or $-O-$ and R_a being H or alkyl (C_1 - C_6); R_b , R_c and R_d independently represent H, alkyl (C_1 - C_4), substituted or unsubstituted phenyl or COOR, R being hydrogen or alkyl (C_1 - C_6); m is an integer from 0 to 6; n and p independently represent 0 or 1; and q and r are independently integers from 0 to 4; said

phenyl, aryl, aralkyl, carbalkoxy and heterocyclic substituents and the W, X, Y and Z substituents being selected from the group consisting of H, alkyl (C_1-C_6), substituted or unsubstituted aryl (C_6-C_{15}), substituted or unsubstituted aralkyl (C_7-C_{15}), halogen, CF_3 , CN, O-alkyl (C_1-C_6), acyloxy (C_1-C_6 acyl), S-alkyl (C_1-C_6), SO-alkyl (C_1-C_6), SO_2 -alkyl (C_1-C_6), NH_2SO_2 , NO_2 , NH_2 , NHR' , $NR'R''$, alkyl $COOR'$, $COOR'$, alkyl $CONR'R''$, $CONR'R''$,



R' and R'' being independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen or alkyl (C_1-C_6), and the isomers and pharmaceutically acceptable salts of said compound.

2. A compound as claimed in claim 1, wherein A represents NR_1R_2 , R_1 and R_2 being the same or different straight or branched chain alkyl groups (C_1-C_6), or R_1 and R_2 , together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached being a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic ring having from 5 to 9 ring atoms, with nitrogen being the only heteroatom in said ring, said heterocyclic ring substituents being selected

from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl (C_1-C_6), halogen, CF_3 , CN and O-alkyl (C_1-C_6), m is an integer from 1-6.

- 20 3. A pharmaceutical composition for treating or preventing pestivirus infection in a mammalian host having or susceptible to said infection, said composition comprising, as active ingredient, a compound as claimed in claim 1, in an amount effective to attenuate or arrest infectivity of said virus, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier medium.
- 25 4. A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 3 in the form of a solid comprising said active ingredient and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.
- 30 5. A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 3, in the form of a liquid comprising said active ingredient and a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent.
- 35 6. A composition as claimed in claim 3, in dosage unit form comprising per unit about 0.1 to about 50 mg. of said active ingredient.

- 5 7. A method of treating mammalian cells in culture
that are susceptible to infection by, or infected
with a pestivirus, said method comprising
administering to said cultures an effective
amount of a compound according to claim 1.
- 10 8.. A method for the *in vitro* treatment of biological
material that is susceptible to infection by, or
infected or contaminated with a pestivirus, said
method comprising treating said material with an
effective amount of a compound according to claim
1.
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